

Letterhead

28 August 1972
OCS-835-72

Mr. Charles W. Hoover, Chief
Educational Resources Information Center
Division of Communication Systems
Office of Education
Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Washington, D. C. 20202

Dear Mr. Hoover:

We will be happy to provide you with information concerning the EPIC photocomposition system. We would like to start with a briefing of the system followed by a review of the documentation that is available.

STATINTL [REDACTED] of my staff, will make the necessary arrangements if you will call him and advise him of a convenient date. His telephone number is 351-6700.

Sincerely yours,

John D. Iams
Director of Computer Services

STATINTL cc: [REDACTED]

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ocs # 868-72

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

OFFICE OF EDUCATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

August 7, 1972

Central Intelligence Agency
Director, Office of Computer Services
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to seek precise information and details concerning the EPIC computerized photocomposition system which is in operational use by your group. This system is known to us largely because of publicly published papers by CIA personnel and also by some personal professional contact.

There are many similarities between the EPIC system and our own ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center) system. They each encompass the entire realm of text processing, from initial keyboarding, through computer processing, to output on photocomposition devices. ERIC generally outputs via the Linotron; EPIC outputs via Photon devices. EPIC is particularly strong in word-correction capability, page-makeup, processing, and, most interesting of all, on-line editing.

In considering the similarities between these two systems, we have conceived of the distinct possibility that we may be able to take advantage of certain EPIC features (by matching, overlaying, replacing, etc.) to help develop a more advanced ERIC system. It is our belief that this software is in the public domain and is available for the asking; it is in no way classified or restricted because of its source. We are interested in this software solely as a way of improving Office of Education's ERIC system.

In order to move in this direction, we would like to submit the following requests:

1. EPIC system documentation (1 copy). This will enable our data processing personnel to gain basic knowledge of EPIC.
2. EPIC briefing, by CIA personnel for OE personnel. This will enable our data processing personnel to ask those questions which arose in the course of examining the documentation. It will also permit CIA personnel to emphasize the key points about EPIC, an invaluable learning exercise.
3. EPIC demonstration, permitting OE personnel to actually see EPIC at work, its products, etc.

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The EPIC software could, in effect, save the OE many thousands of dollars in software development costs that might otherwise be incurred. For this reason we request your cooperation in the preliminary steps outlined above. If the two systems prove to be as compatible as hoped, we would follow up with a request for the necessary EPIC system software.

We look forward to hearing from you and wish to thank you in advance for any assistance you can give us in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Charles W. Hoover". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "C" and "H".

Charles W. Hoover
Chief, Educational Resources Information
Center, Division of Communication Systems

STATINTL

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| TRANSMITTAL SLIP | | DATE 8/25/72 |
| TO: [REDACTED] | | |
| ROOM NO. 2E25 | BUILDING HQS. | |
| REMARKS: <p>Al - Sorry to be so long for so short a note. We have talked to [REDACTED] & our troops involved. We think we can give them some help.</p> <p>Ro-</p> | | |
| FROM: C/MSD | | |
| ROOM NO. GA-3910 | BUILDING HQS | EXTENSION 6200 |
| FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55 | | REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED. |

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| 2 | D OK | 10/4 | TD |
| 3 | EO | 11 Aug | ALP |
| 4 | [REDACTED] | | |
| 5 | | | |
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| ACTION | | DIRECT REPLY | PREPARE REPLY |
| APPROVAL | | DISPATCH | RECOMMENDATION |
| COMMENT | | FILE | RETURN |
| CONCURRENCE | | INFORMATION | SIGNATURE |
| Remarks: <p>Jack - I don't know who the "personal professional contact" was, but since this will probably involve a joint [REDACTED] PSD/OCS presentation suggest we have [REDACTED] talk with PSD and draft response for you -</p> <p>As - Bob - could you arrange with PSD and give me a response for HEW by 17 Aug ALP</p> | | | |
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